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INFORMATION REPORT

CD NO.

COUNTRY Ecuador

SUBJECT General Communist Activities in Ecuador

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**NO. OF ENCLS.
(LISTED BELOW)**

**SUPPLEMENT TO
REPORT NO.**

1. The resentment is growing between the Partido Comunista del Ecuador (PCE) and the ideologically opposed Concentracion de Fuerzas Populares (CFF) led by Carlos Guevara Moreno. The Communists are increasingly fearful of Guevara's growing popularity and are making every effort to counteract the progress of his movement. Alberto Rosero, PCE member and secretary of the Abraham Lincoln cell, stated upon his recent return to Quito from Guayaquil that PCE arms and ammunition, previously stored in rural areas, had been brought to Guayaquil and cached in homes of Party members in order to be immediately available for use against the CFF in case of necessity.
2. Dr. Ricardo Paredes, Secretary General of the PCE, who customarily resides in the Manabi province of Ecuador, is currently faced with the choice of establishing permanent residence in Quito or giving up his position in the Party. PCE statutes stipulate that the Secretary General must reside in the capital of the country. As a special dispensation, the Central Committee granted Paredes permission to live in Manabi for one year in order to finish his personal and business matters there. This time has now expired and he will be expected to make a final decision in the near future. It appears that his wife, who is not a Communist, wishes him to give up the position because it demands so much of his time and effort that it is impossible for him to support his family properly.
3. The Central Committee of the PCE is scheduled to hold special meetings in Quito as soon as Pedro Saad, who is the actual leader of the Party, can arrange to leave Guayaquil. One purpose of the meeting is to discuss means for strengthening the Party in the areas where it made a poor showing in the 4 June congressional elections. Another purpose is to reassess the Party's policy viz-a-viz the administration in the light of election results. It is also likely that the question of future underground operations will be discussed. There will probably be several meetings held over a period of two or three days and attended only by members of the Central Committee. All resolutions except those of a secret nature will be presented at the final session, which will be open to all Party members.

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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4. During a recent discussion in the Quito Party headquarters, certain members who are alleged to be former Trotskyites expressed doubts as to the advisability of blindly following orders from the USSR. The discussion grew into a bitter debate and caused Party leaders to consider expelling the offending members. It was ascertained that those who provoked the debate had no intention of causing a Party split, and it is believed that no action will be taken against them because the Party cannot afford to create internal trouble at a time when it is making every effort to expand and strengthen the organization.
5. Nela Martinez, principal promoter of the feminine peace committees and recently defeated congressional candidate, has again resumed her campaign to establish a large network of committees in Quito and the adjacent area. She plans to tour the provinces of Guayas and Manabi to establish new peace committees in the near future. She will probably begin her trip immediately after the close of the Central Committee meetings referred to above. Martinez has stated that she is somewhat disappointed in the progress of the committees because most of the members are politically ignorant and will require considerable indoctrination before becoming useful to the Party. One method of indoctrination being employed is to have the women meet frequently in the home of one of the members who has a radio strong enough to pick up Radio Moscow.*

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